

before Congress on the issues of energy conservation and energy financing. President George H.W. Bush appointed him to the President's Educational Policy Advisory Committee and he served in a similar capacity for President George W. Bush. He later served on the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board and has served for eight years as a member of the Commission on Presidential Scholars. The Hispanic Business Journal has named him among America's 100 Most Influential Hispanic Leaders.

He received his B.S., M.S., E.E. and Ph.D. degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed the Harvard Business School's Program for Leadership Development. He is also a contributing author to ten books and has co-authored a New York Times bestseller.

I have always considered Florida International University to be one of the fundamental pillars of South Florida. During my years in the Florida State Legislature, and now in Congress, I have enjoyed working closely with Dr. Maidique in the efforts to create the College of Law, the Engineering Campus, expanding the library and research capabilities, and securing millions in federal funding, among other accomplishments. I have witnessed the work of this great leader first hand and today I thank him for his service. His legacy will endure generations and is sure to be felt for decades to come.

My dear friend Mitch Maidique exemplifies the true meaning of public service and has put the needs of the University, our community's University, above all else. Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in celebrating his legacy and career, thanking him for his invaluable service and wishing him well in the years to come.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3293) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to this Republican motion to recommit on the Fiscal Year 2010 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill (H.R. 3293).

Since I was first elected to Congress, I have been advocating for more funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In January, I voted for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R.1) that included \$12.2 billion to help States and localities fund special education for 6.7 million students with disabilities. I want to note that not one Republican in the House of Representatives voted for the Recovery Act that included this vital

funding. In the 109th and 110th Congresses, I introduced the Achieving Our IDEA Act, which would guarantee that the federal government meets its commitment to provide 40 percent of the cost of educating children with special needs by 2013.

The bill we have before us today includes \$12.58 billion for IDEA and I wish it included more. However, we cannot make up 8 years of lost ground in a single piece of legislation. This motion to recommit would add one billion dollars to the IDEA only by cutting other critical investments. If this motion passes, neighbors who have lost their jobs would suffer due to reduced funding for Training and Employment Services in the Department of Labor. Schools would lose needed funds for innovation and improvement. Nonprofits would suffer because the Corporation for National and Community Service budget would be reduced by 30 percent.

For these reasons, I will not support this motion and urge a "no" vote.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EUGENE
AMOS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today pay tribute former Kansas State Representative Eugene "Gene" Amos, who died on July 24th.

Gene Amos, the owner of the Amos Funeral Home, served in the Kansas House of Representatives from 1987 to 1993, representing a district that was centered on the city of Shawnee. Earlier this year, he received the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce's Lifetime Achievement Award for advancing the interests of Shawnee, which bears the imprint of his "good deeds, kind words and solid values", the Chamber stated. Born in Liberal, Kansas, he moved to Shawnee with his family in 1945, attended Shawnee Mission Rural High School and graduated from Kansas City Missouri Junior College and the Kansas City College of Mortuary Science. After serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, he married Margaret Zoll in 1953 and joined his father's funeral business.

In addition to serving as president of the Kansas Funeral Directors Association and president of the State Board of Embalmers, Gene was an active member of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, the Shawnee Historical Society, the Shawnee Optimist Club, and Optimist International, where he served as president and district governor. He was a member of Merriam Christian Church, serving as a deacon, elder and chairman of the board. Additionally, he served as president and member of the Delaware Crossing Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. He often spoke to groups on the history of Shawnee, politics, the funeral business and family research, and he taught genealogy at Johnson County Community College. In 2007, he was named Shawnee Citizen of the Year by the Knights of Columbus Council 2332. He also was a charter member of the Ancient Form Masonic Lodge, and was a member of Scottish Rite Bodies, Abdallah Shrine, Beatrice Chamber, and Order of the Eastern Star.

As a member of the Kansas House of Representatives, Gene served on the education, public health and agriculture committees. According to the Kansas City Star, when the Kansas Legislature approved a resolution earlier this year recognizing Amos, lawmakers recalled his humor: "One legislator told how Amos would pass out business cards to fellow committee members who he said appeared lifeless. He once took the pulse of a sleeping legislator and said he was looking for a new client. Then the mood in the legislative chamber that day turned more somber, according to a transcript of the proceedings. Frank Weimer, who served with Amos as a state representative, spoke of Amos' honor, generosity and integrity. 'There isn't a man on this earth I respect more than Gene Amos,' Weimer said."

Madam Speaker, Gene Amos is survived by: his wife, Margaret; son, Gregg Amos; daughters, Joni Pflumm and Amy Ruo (John); sister, Paula Ramona Upton; six grandchildren and one great grandson. I have known Gene for many years and considered him a good friend. I join his many friends, neighbors and professional colleagues in celebrating his life and mourning our loss.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVE MEN
AND WOMEN WHO SERVED IN
THE VIETNAM WAR AND HON-
ORING THEIR SERVICE TO THE
NATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the brave men and women who served in the Vietnam War. It has been 50 years since our first casualties. In 1959, Major Dale Richard Buis and Master Sergeant Chester M. Ovnand were ambushed and killed by Ho Chi Minh Vietnamese. By 1963, 100 advisors had lost their life in Vietnam. After President Kennedy's assassination, history would be left to President Johnson, who would lead Americans into one of the most tumultuous times in our history.

In 1964, the reported Gulf of Tonkin incident resulted in a Congressional Resolution that allowed President Lyndon B. Johnson to wage war without a formal declaration. By 1965, the conflict heightened and more Americans were subject to the draft. Casualties escalated from 17,000 to 35,000 a month. In January of 1968, the North Vietnamese launched the Tet Offensive, though Americans were able to obtain a military victory and recapture most of the area. However, politically the tide of support was turning in the United States, and the draft continued as protests became louder. Richard Nixon was elected President and began covert bombing of Cambodia in 1969. By 1973 the last American troops left Vietnam.

As our American military was sent to do battle in a civil war, they had no idea of the life altering experience that would change them and their country forever. Vietnam Veterans are the children of the greatest generation. And like their fathers and mothers they did their job for their country, engaging the enemy on land, in the air, and on water—many fighting to their death. In battle survival depended on each other. They became numb from the